

Town of Bedford Finance Committee
Selectmen's Meeting Room, Bedford Town Hall

Date: February 7, 2013

Finance Committee Attendees: Mike Seibert, Chair; Stephen Steele, Vice-Chair; Meredith McCulloch, Barbara Perry, Tom Busa, Richard Bowen, Stephen Carluccio (arrived @ 7:48), Ben Thomas.

Other Attendees: William Moonan, Selectman; School Committee: Anne Bickford, Chair, Ed Pierce, Abbie Seibert; Kim Siebert, The Bedford Citizen; Richard Reed, Town Manager; Victor Garofalo, Finance Director, Treasurer/Collector; Joanne Monaghan, Recording Secretary for finance committee.

Attachments/Handouts: FY2014 Budget Model 3.2. Model Changes; Debt Summary; Sick Leave Buyback; Memo from Jon Sills, Superintendent; Draft Warrant for Annual Town Meeting (ATM).

Meeting was called to order at 7:35pm.

Meeting Discussions and Actions:

1. Victor reviewed the Model 3.2 FY14 changes. He also noted the refunding of outstanding debt at a lower rate. There was discussion regarding the 'Sick Leave Buyback', and it was agreed by the committee to include \$25k in the budget as an addition to the current liability.

-Rich B. made a motion to reduce the bonding for capital projects by \$339,096, and increase the capital budget by the same amount, seconded by Steve C. *Vote: 6-2-0.*

The new amount for bonded articles is \$1,964,690.

-There was discussion regarding borrowing for purchasing an ambulance, and what is accounted for in the Ambulance Enterprise Budget.

-There was discussion regarding the 2 additional hires for the DPW.

-Rich B. made a motion to approve the increase to the Selectmen's budget by \$89,335 over guideline, seconded by Steve S. *Vote: 0-7-1.*

-Rich B. made a motion to approve the increase to the Selectmen's budget by \$4,500 over guideline, seconded by Tom B. *Vote: 8-0-0.*

-Rich B. made a motion to approve the increase to the Selectmen's budget by \$42,418 over guideline, for a single additional employee in DPW, seconded by Steve C. *Vote 2-6-0.*

2. School Budget: Anne reviewed the memo dated February 6, from Jon Sills to the finance committee which addressed several questions in detail that were asked at the January 24, finance committee meeting. They also discussed costs of the Special Education Student in-house program vs. Out of District placement costs. Barbara asked for more detail on the changes in the Kindergarten curriculum. Tom asked about contracting out the food service program. Abbie noted that they are reviewing the new Federal regulations on the food program, and that there are fewer kids buying lunch.

-Rich B. made a motion to approve the increase to the School budget by \$838,074 over guideline, seconded by Steve S. *Vote: 3-3-2.*

-Barbara made a motion to approve an increase to the School budget by \$600,000 over guideline, seconded by Steve C. *Vote: 6-1-1.*

3. Warrant Articles: Richard Reed reviewed the Draft Warrant for the ATM.

Article 2- Debate Rules, Tom made a motion to recommend approval of the Debate Rules, seconded by Barbara. *Vote: 8-0-0.*

Article 3- Consent Article, Tom made a motion to recommend approval of the Consent Article, seconded by Barbara. *Vote: 8-0-0*

Article 4- Reauthorization of Revolving Funds, Barbara made a motion to recommend approval of the Reauthorization of Revolving Funds, seconded by Steve C. *Vote: 8-0-0*

Article 5- Bills of Prior Year, Tom made a motion to recommend approval of the Bills of Prior Year, seconded by Steve S. *Vote: 8-0-0.*

Articles 6 to 16- General Bylaw Amendments, Tom made a motion to recommend approval of the General Bylaw Amendments at ATM, seconded by Barbara. *Vote: 8-0-0.*

Article 17- Affordable Housing, Meredith made a motion to recommend approval of the Affordable Housing Committee & Bedford Housing Partnership seconded by Barbara. *Vote: 8-0-0.*

Article 20- Salary Administration Plan Bylaw, Rich B made a motion to recommend approval of the Salary Administration Plan Bylaw, seconded by Steve C. *Vote: 8-0-0.*

Article 21- Bond Authorization-Water Main Improvements, Barbara made a motion to recommend approval of the Bond Authorization-Water Main Improvements, seconded by Steve S. *Vote: 8-0-0.*

Article 25- Salary Administration Plan Bylaw, Classification & Wage Schedule, Barbara made a motion to recommend approval of the Salary Administration Plan Bylaw, Classification & Wage Schedule, seconded by Steve S. *Vote: 8-0-0.*

4. Old Business: none discussed

5. New Business: none discussed

6. Meetings Attended: Rich B participated in the Strategic Communications conference call. Legislation to be filed to amend the budget and also to amend Ch 70 which will include some aid for certain towns. Ben attended the Selectmen's meeting; they reviewed the warrant and budget.

7. Open Discussion: none

8. Minutes: Motion was made by Barbara to approve the minutes as amended for January 31, seconded by Steve S. *Vote 6-0-1.* (minutes were approved before Steve C arrived)

9. Tom made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:30pm, seconded by Steve S. *Vote: 8-0-0.*

Finance Meeting Schedule: 2013-February 14.